

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05

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INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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USMISSION UN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 0043

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, TU, CSCE

SUBJ: KOSYGIN VISIT TO TURKEY

REF: (A) 75 ANKARA 9473, (B) 75 MOSCOW 18562

SUMMARY: IN JANUARY 6 POLADS, TURKISH REP REPORTED ON KOSYGIN'S YEAR-END VISIT TO TURKEY. TURKISH REPORT PARALLELED INFORMATION PROVIDED REFTELS, AND CONFIRMED THAT TURKS HAD RULED OUT REGULAR VISITS/CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN TURKISH AND SOVIET LEADERS. END SUMMARY.

1. IN JANUARY 6 MEETING OF NATO POLITICAL COMMITTEE, TURKISH REP (ERALP) REPORTED ON KOSYGIN'S DECEMBER 26-29 VISIT TO TURKEY FOR THE INAUGURATION OF THE ISKENDERUN STEEL PLANT. ERALP SAID TURKISH REP WOULD PROVIDE DETAILS ON TURKISH-SOVIET CONFIDENTIAL

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ECONOMIC DISCUSSIONS IN ECONADS, BUT DID NOTE KOSYGIN'S INDICATION THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAD NOT BEEN AFFECTED BY CURRENT, UNFAVORABLE WORLD ECONOMIC CONDITIONS.

2. ERALP NOTED THAT IN DISCUSSIONS WITH TURKISH LEADERS, KOSYGIN HAD STRESSED THAT SOVIET LEADERS WERE PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR RECENT STRENGTHENING OF DETENTE PROCESS, AND PORTRAYED THE USSR AS THE STATE WHICH MORE THAN ANY OTHER HAS CONTRIBUTED TO WORLD PEACE AND SECURITY.

3. KOSYGIN HAD QUALIFIED THE CSCE FINAL ACT AS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT EVENT IN RECENT YEARS AND CLAIMED THAT IT HAD BEEN ACHIEVED THROUGH SINCERE EFFORTS OF BREZHNEV. KOSYGIN NOTED IMPORTANCE SOVIETS ATTACH TO IMPLEMENTATION OF ALL OF THE FINAL ACT'S PROVISIONS, BUT STRESSED SOLELY ITEMS COVERED IN BASKET II. KOSYGIN NOTED SOVIET INTEREST IN NEXT STEPS BEYOND CSCE, AND MADE REFERENCE TO BREZHNEV'S PROPOSAL FOR THE CONVENING OF A EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON ENERGY, THE ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORTATION.

4. ERALP SAID KOSYGIN HAD EXPLAINED CURRENT SOVIET DISARMAMENT INITIATIVES, BUT HAD COMPLAINED ABOUT WESTERN AND CHINESE ARMS BUILD-UP AND INDICATED THAT THE SOVIET DEFENSE BUDGET WAS THE SAME AS IN THE PRECEDING YEAR WHICH HAD ITSELF REPRESENTED A RELATIVE DECREASE.

5. KOSYGIN REFERRED TO THE SOVIET UNION'S DEVELOPING ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH WESTERN EUROPE AND JAPAN. IN CONTEXT OF SOVIET-JAPANESE RELATIONS, KOSYGIN TOLD TURKS THAT THE QUESTION OF THE KURILE ISLANDS "DOES NOT EXIST" AS FAR AS THE USSR IS CONCERNED.

6. AS FOR CHINA, KOSYGIN COMPLAINED ABOUT THE INTRANSIGENT ATTITUDE OF THE CURRENT CHINESE LEADERSHIP AND ABOUT MAOIST PERSONALITY CULT. KOSYGIN DID, HOWEVER, SPEAK OF A POSSIBILITY OF CHANGE IN CHINA'S ATTITUDE ONCE THE CURRENT LEADERSHIP HAS DISAPPEARED FROM THE SCENE. KOSYGIN DID NOT TOUCH UPON SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR ASIAN SECURITY SYSTEM.

7. KOSYGIN QUALIFIED US-USSR RELATIONS AS NORMAL, INDICATING THAT TALKS BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS ARE SYSTEMATIC RATHER CONFIDENTIAL

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THAN PERIODIC BUT THAT THE TWO DO NOT ALWAYS SEE EYE-TO-EYE.

8. ERALP NOTED THAT KOSYGIN HAD CONFIRMED WELL-KNOWN SOVIET VIEWS ON THE MID-EAST, BUT HAD NOT REFERRED TO THE SOVIET PROPOSAL OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS CYPRUS.

9. THE SOVIETS SAID THEY DESIRED TO CONTINUE TO IMPROVE TURKISH-SOVIET BILATERAL RELATIONS, AND KOSYGIN STATED THAT DECISION IN THIS SENSE HAD BEEN TAKEN BY THE SOVIET POLITBURO. KOSYGIN TOUCHED UPON THE DESIRABILITY OF HAVING PERIODIC CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE LEADERS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES, BUT DID NOT INSIST SINCE THE TURKS CONTINUE TO FIND SUCH PROPOSALS UNACCEPTABLE.

10. ERALP REPORTED THAT THE SOVIETS AND TURKS HAD BOTH AGREED TO ENLARGE THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES WHICH THEY SIGNED IN 1972 AND TO GIVE IT NEW CONTENT WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT. IN DISCUSSING SPECIFICS, SAID ERALP, THE SOVIETS HAD NOT PUT FORWARD "DIFFICULT" OR UNACCEPTABLE PROPOSALS OR DEMANDS. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION FROM DUTCH REP (HORAK), ERALP REPORTED SUCCESSOR TO 1972 DECLARATION WOULD BE A NEW DOCUMENT RATHER THAN MERELY AMENDMENT TO EXISTING ONE.

11. IN CLOSING, ERALP SUGGESTED THAT KOSYGIN'S VISIT SHOULD BE SEEN IN THE LIGHT OF THE SPIRIT OF DETENTE WHICH HAS BEEN DEVELOPING IN EUROPE, AND OF TURKEY'S POLICY OF NORMALIZING AND DEVELOPING RELATIONS WITH HER SOCIALIST NEIGHBORS. BRUCE

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